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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-Hour Report

11 FEBRUARY 2020

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) San Diego – CDC Mistakenly Removes Coronavirus Case From Hospital

(U) A botched test result allowed an evacuee infected with the coronavirus to leave a San Diego hospital yesterday after initially being told by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that the person was in the clear. The situation was detailed in a brief statement released by UC San Diego Health, which says that all four quarantine patients admitted to its isolation units last week were discharged back to quarantine quarters at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar after the CDC said the coronavirus tests came back negative. The confirmed positive patient was returned to UC San Diego Health for observation and isolation until cleared by the CDC for release. The university also said it has received another patient with possible coronavirus symptoms, bringing the total hospitalized out of Miramar quarantine to eight. SOURCE: 10 February 2020, Los Angeles Times

(U) San Diego – Coast Guard Seizes Nearly 20,000 Pounds of Cocaine

(U) The US Coast Guard says nearly 20,000 pounds of cocaine seized in the eastern Pacific Ocean has been brought to San Diego. The drug estimated to be worth about \$338 million was scheduled to be offloaded from the cutter Munro at Naval Base San Diego. The cocaine was seized in eight operations by the crews of four cutters between mid-November and mid-January. The Coast Guard says the campaign against drug cartels in the Eastern Pacific involves numerous US agencies as well as the Navy. SOURCE: 10 February 2020, Sacramento Bee

(U) San Jose – Mexican Citizen Sentenced in Drug Trafficking Case

(U) A federal judge sentenced a 49-year-old Mexican citizen to eight and a half years in prison for his role in a drug-trafficking network. Efrain Torres pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute 50 games and more of methamphetamine. Torres admitted he conspired with others to distribute heroin, cocaine, and methamphetamine throughout the Bay Area between January and April 2017.

SOURCE: 11 February 2020, Mercury News

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Louisiana – St. Landry Parish Church Arsonist Pleads Guilty in Court

(U) Lafayette – Holden Matthews has admitted to burning three historically black churches in St. Landry Parish last year. Matthews, 20, pleaded guilty in state and federal court yesterday. Matthews pleaded guilty to four of the six charges against him in federal court: one count using fire to commit a felony and three counts intentional damage to religious property. The latter charges are what is known as the Church Arson Prevention Act. He faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years in prison, and a statutory maximum sentence of 70 years in prison. His sentencing date in that case is set for 22 May. SOURCE: 10 February 2020, KATC

(U) Nevada – White Supremacist Pleads Guilty in Bomb Plot Case

(U) Las Vegas – A self-described white supremacist pleaded guilty in Las Vegas to collecting materials

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and planning to bomb a synagogue or office of the Anti-Defamation League, or shoot people at a fast food restaurant or a bar catering to LGBTQ customers. Conor Climo, 24, was reportedly a member of Feuerkrieg Division, an offshoot of a US-based neo-Nazi group called Atomwaffen Division. SOURCE: 10 February 2020, Associated Press

(U) Virginia – FBI Warns About Ongoing Attacks Against Software Supply Chain Companies

(U) Quantico – The FBI has sent a security alert to the US private sector about an ongoing hacking campaign that's targeting supply chain software providers. The FBI says hackers are attempting to infect companies with the Kwampirs malware, a remote access trojan (RAT). Software supply chain companies are believed to be targeted in order to gain access to the victim's strategic partners and/or customers, including entities supporting Industrial Control Systems (ICS) for global energy generation, transmission, and distribution. Besides attacks against supply chain software providers, the FBI said the same malware was also deployed in attacks against companies in the healthcare, energy, and financial sectors. SOURCE: 10 February 2020, ZD Net

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) England – British Man Guilty of Plotting Attack on London Sites

(U) London – A British Uber driver, previously cleared of a sword attack on police outside Buckingham Palace, was convicted of a plot to kill people in the name of Islam at London tourist destinations including Madame Tussauds and the Gay Pride parade. Mohiussunnath Chowdhury, 28 boasted to undercover detectives about having deceived the jury after being acquitted of wounding police officers outside Queen Elizabeth's London home in 2017. Chowdhury was convicted at London's Woolwich Crown Court of preparing terrorist acts, possessing information useful to terrorism and disseminating a terrorist publication. He will be sentenced on 13 March.

SOURCE: 10 February 2020, Reuters

(U) England – Britain Moves to End Early Release of Convicted Terrorists

(U) London – Britain will end the automatic early release of convicted terrorists under new fast-tracked legislation to be introduced to parliament today. The legislation follows an attack earlier this month by an Islamist militant just days after he was set free half-way through his jail term, despite authorities believing he still posed a threat to the public. The emergency measures, which the government wants to become law by the end of the month, will mean convicted terrorists cannot be released before the end of their sentence without an assessment of whether they are still a risk.

SOURCE: 11 February 2020, Reuters

(U) Nigeria – Suspected Boko Haram Attack Kills at Least 30

(U) Auno – At least 30 people were killed in Nigeria's northeastern Borno region after suspected Boko Haram members set ablaze several trucks carrying passengers on 9 February. There was no immediate claim of responsibility, but the Boko Haram group and rival Islamic State in West Africa (ISWA) splinter group have often carried out attacks in the area. Eyewitness said the insurgents attacked on motorbikes shooting sporadically. They set at least 18 vehicles ablaze and abducted several people, another eyewitness said.

SOURCE: 10 February 2020, Reuters

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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